

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SAIGON 19607 161258Z

53

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-14 DPW-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 AID-20

OMB-01 TRSE-00 DRC-01 /183 W
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R 161159Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9105

INFO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USDEL JEC PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 19607

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, VS

SUBJECT: ICCS: BUDGET REVISION PLANS

REF: (A) SAIGON 19446; (B) SAIGON 18946

1. IN CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF NOVEMBER 16, DIRGEN NUR GAVE SOME DETAILS ON ICCS PLANS TO REDUCE ICCS BUDGET TO APPROXIMATELY \$33 MILLION. NUR NOTED THAT HE HAD TOLD GVN FONOFF OFFICIAL ICCS CONTEMPLATED 20-25 PERCENT CUT IN ITS CURRENT HUDGET WHEN HE WAS INOFRMED NOVEMBER 14 OF BUDGETARY LEVEL GVN WOULD SUPPORT (REF A).

2. NUR SAID ON NOVEMBER 17 ICCS WOULD DISCUSS DRAFT NOTE HE HAD PREPARED TO RESPOND TO DRV NOTE OF OCTOBER 27 IN WHICH DRV REITERATED ITS SUPPORT OF \$18 MILLION BUDGET (REF B). SUGGESTED RESPONSE POINTS OUT THAT ICCS IN INITIAL MONTHS HAD TO OPERATE WITHOUT GUIDANCE FROM FOUR PARITES ON BUDGET LEVEL; SINCE ICCS HAD TO GEGIN OPERATIONS REPIDLY, CONTRACTS WERE CONCLUDED
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PAGE 02 SAIGON 19607 161258Z

WHICH HAVE COMMITTED ICCS TO EXPENDITURES GREATER THAN \$18

MILLION.

3. NUR SAID HIS DRAFT ALSO WILL EMPHASIZE ICCS EFFORTS REDUCE EXPENDITURES THROUGH AMENDING CONTRACTS. NUR SAID MONTHLY RUNNING EXPENSES FOR REMAINDER OF BUDGETARY PERIOD WILL BE \$1.6 MILLION, REPRESENTING SLIGHT REDUCTION.

4. QUERIED AS TO HOW HE HAD REACHED FIGURE OF \$33 MILLION, NUR REVERTED TO TRADITIONAL BREAKDOWN OF BUDGET INTO (A) GENERAL ICCS OR SECRETARIAT EXPENSES AND (B) DELEGATION EXPENSES. UNDER (A), WHICH UNCLUDES ALL ICCS CONTRACTS AND CAPITAL EXPENDITURES, NUR CLAIMS IT IS POSSIBLE TO REDUCE TOTAL FROM \$24 MILLION TO \$19 MILLION BY AMENDING CONTRACTS AND REDUCING CAPITAL EXPENDITURES ITEM FROM \$3.3 MILLION TO \$1 MILLION. UNDER (B), NUR SAID DELEGATION EXPENSES (ANTICIPATED AND CLAIMED) WILL BE REDUCED FROM \$19 MILLION TO \$14 MILLION. HOWEVER, NUR ADMITTED THAT UNDER (B) THERE ARE STILL SOME UNCERTAINTIES WITH NO CLEAR IDEA OF TOTAL OF CANADIAN BILL AND WITH SOME POSSIBLE QTE ADJUSTMENTS UNQTE IN INDIVIDUAL DELEGATION ACCOUNTS.

5. NUR SAID HE PROPOSED THAT ICCS AUTHORIZE HIM TO MAKE COPIES REVISED BUDGET AVAILABLE TO ALL FOUR PARTIES, BUT HE WAS RELUCTANT PROVIDE COPY UNTIL ICCS HAD TAKEN ACTION.

6. ALMOST INCIDENTALLY, NUR INFORMED EMBOFF THAT QTE AROUND NOVEMBER 1 UNQTE ICCS HAD RECEIVED NOTIFICATION FROM CHARTERED BANK OF RECEIPT \$400,000 FROM PEKING BANK. HE HAD BEEN UNABLE TO DETERMINE WHETHER THIS REPRESENTED CONTRIBUTION FROM DRV, FROM PRG, OR FROM BOTH.

7. COMMENT: EMBASSY WILL DEFER COMMENTS ON BUDGETARY CHANGES PROPOSED UNTIL IT RECEIVES FINAL VERSION AFTER COMMISSION ACTION.
APPLING

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Message Attributes

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